22. (NEW) An inhibitor of complement activation that specifically binds factor D at a molar ratio of about 1.5:1 (inhibitor: factor D), wherein the inhibitor is an antibody or a binding fragment thereof.

23. (NEW) The inhibitor of claim 22, wherein the inhibition of complement activation is determined *in vitro*.

24. (NEW) The inhibitor of claim 22, wherein the inhibition of complement activation is determined *ex vivo*.

25. (NEW) The inhibitor of claim 22, wherein the antibody, or binding fragment, binds to a region of human factor D between (and including) amino acid residue numbers Cys154 and Cys170.

26. (NEW) The inhibitor of claim 25, wherein the antibody does not bind to human factor D if amino acid residues Arg156, His159 and Leu168 are absent.

27. (NEW) The inhibitor of claim 22, wherein the antibody fragment is Fab, $F(ab')_2$, Fv or single chain Fv.

28. (NEW) The inhibitor of claim 22, wherein the antibody is a chimeric, humanized, deimmunised or human antibody.

29. (NEW) The monoclonal antibody 166-32.

30. (NEW) The hybridoma producing the monoclonal antibody 166-32 of claim 29, deposited at the American Type Culture Collection under Accession number HB-12476.

31. (NEW) A monoclonal antibody or binding fragment thereof, that binds to the same epitope on factor D as the antibody 166-32 at a molar ratio of about 1.5:1 (inhibitor: factor D).